

IN THE SPECIFICATION

In the specification on page 1, following the title of the invention and preceding the section labeled "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", please add the following priority data:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

ai This application is a 371 of PCT/US99/17931, filed August 10, 1999, which claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application 60/096,638, filed August 14, 1998, which are hereby incorporated by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 11[✓] without prejudice.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to include a cross-reference to related applications PCT/US99/17931 and U.S. provisional application 60/096,638.

To expedite prosecution of this case, claim 11 has been canceled, without prejudice to pursuing the subject matter of said claim in a later filed divisional application.

Presently, claims 1-10 and 12 are pending. No new matter has been added.

Priority

The Office Action states that if Applicants desire priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 or 119(e), specific reference to the earlier filed application must be made in the instant application. In response thereto, Applicants have amended the specification to include a section entitled "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS," which indicates that the instant application is a 371 of PCT/US99/17931, filed August 10, 1999, which claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application 60/096,638, filed August 14, 1998.

The Office Action further states that if the application was filed on or after November 29, 2000, any claim for priority must be made during the pendency of the application